

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please insert the following paragraph(s) as the abstract in the currently filed specification:

**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to the factor RecA from *bacillus licheniformis* DSM 13 (SEQ ID NO: 2), along with the associated gene *recA* (SEQ ID NO: 1), including related proteins and genes thereof, such as the variant indicated under SEQ ID NOS: 31 and 32, among others. According to the invention, gene *recA* is used for constructing gram-positive bacterial safety stems for biotechnological production, among other things, by inactivating the same in the respective stems. In a special embodiment, said stems are provided with additional functional deletions in phase-IV sporulation genes, preferably in gene *SpoIV* (in *Bacillus licheniformis*), gene *yqfD* (in *B. subtilis*), or the respective gene that is homologous thereto if said stems are naturally able to form spores. Furthermore, the inventive RecA represents a protein which can be used in molecular biological assays or for modulating the molecular biological activities of cells, especially in connection with DNA polymerization or recombination processes.